

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIME MINISTER

cc Sir Robert Armstrong

FALKLANDS: OD(SA)15th July

The main purpose of the meeting will be to review the arrangements for the Falklands Service at St Pauls on 26 July. These are summarised in the paper by MOD officials circulated under a note by the Secretaries of 9 July (OD(SA)(32)70), with the changes described in the Defence Secretary's minute to you of 12 July. These arrangements appear satisfactory. Sir Arthur Hockaday (MOD) will again be present.

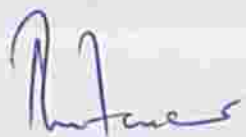
2. As agreed at OD(SA) on 12 July, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary is preparing proposals on the representatives of foreign and Commonwealth Governments who might be invited to the service, and he will present these to the Sub-Committee orally. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is having difficulty in producing a list which will not appear invidious in one respect or another. Not all the Commonwealth Governments, for example, were equally helpful during the crisis; and Community representation is complicated by the problem of the Irish Republic, which was particularly unhelpful both over sanctions and at the United Nations. But to leave the Irish Republic out if all the other Community countries were invited would be a public gesture of disapproval which could attract criticism inter alia on the grounds that, whatever the attitude of the Irish Government, the Republic was the only foreign country which had citizens actually fighting with the British forces in the Falklands. Possible solutions might be to invite no foreign representatives at all except the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth; or simply to make it known informally to selected Ambassadors and High Commissioners that seating would be limited (because of the need to give seats to as many relatives as possible of those who had taken part in the campaign) but that they would of course be welcome to attend if they wished.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

3. The timing and modalities of decisions to lift the current United Kingdom restrictions against Argentina (the Total Exclusion Zone, 12 Mile restriction, economic sanctions and freeze of Argentine assets) are due to be considered at a meeting of OD(FAF) early next week on the basis of an inter-departmental paper being prepared by officials. This will also take account of the views expressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his minute of 12 July.

Submitted
to you
separately


for A D S GOODALL

14 July 1982

CONFIDENTIAL